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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: NISHIUCHI et al. Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: 09/807,865 Group Art Unit: 2651
Filed: April 19, 2001 Docket: 10873.704USWO
Title: OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR RECORDING/REPRODUCTION

2-25-04

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on February 13, 2004.

By: *Jenifer Hilden*
Name: Jenifer Hilden

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

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- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
 Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 5 References
 Return postcard

Technology Center 2600

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By: *DPM/jh*
Name: Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No.: 30,300
DPM/jh



09/807,865

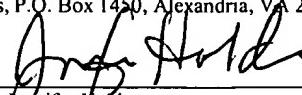
PATENT

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By: 
Name: Jennifer Holden

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(m)) **RECEIVED**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FEB 20 2004

Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

Japanese reference 11-162031 corresponds with US 6,266,299.

Japanese reference 10-233019 corresponds with US 6,052,465.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

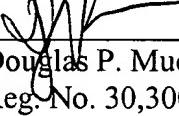
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Dated: February 13, 2004

By: 
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/jh

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE